

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 23 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEIn re Application of:
Erning Xia, et al.

Serial No.: 09/782,318

Filed: February 13, 2001

Title: HIGH OSMOLYTE CLEANING AND
DISINFECTION METHOD AND
SOLUTION FOR CONTACT LENSES

Examiner: E. B. Elhilo

Group No.: 1751

Docket No: P01849

OFFICIAL**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Honorable Sir:

Applicants herein respectfully request in this Petition a three (3) month extension of time as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a), from November 18, 2003 to February 18, 2004, within which to respond to the Office Action mailed August 18, 2003 regarding the above-identified application.

Please charge the required non-small entity three month extension fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) as well as any additional required fee to deposit account 02-1425. Triplicate copies of this petition are submitted herewith for billing purposes.

Should you have any questions regarding this communication, please feel free to contact me at (636) 226-3340.

Respectfully submitted,

 1/23/04Rita D. Vacca
Reg. No.: 33,624Bausch & Lomb, Inc.
One Bausch & Lomb Place
Rochester, New York 14604-2701